To Mrs. Garrison.

1709 Green St. Phila.
June 20th 1862

76

My Dear Friend,

I can scarcely believe the testimony furnished against me, by the date of your last, unanswered, letter, for you have been so much in my thoughts, and I have purposed writing to you so often; that it really seems to me that I have done so. The photograph of your dear, good, face looks on me so pleasantly, so kindly, from my bureau, that I can easily fancy that you are really with me, but the fancy does not satisfy my desire of communion with you. It was very kind in Mr. Garrison to leave the picture for me, and I am very much obliged to him. I wish he could know how much I enjoy it. Opposite yours, on my bureau, I have his; they are in little standing frames, very pretty & convenient. On my chamber wall, hang lovely little photographs

of dear Mr. & Mrs. Mott, in their venerable beauty; and between them hangs the large photograph of my young friend, Frank G, which you gave me last summer. Their faces seem to be turned most benignly, towards him, and I think him honorably and worthily placed within such guardianship. Now, you can imagine how pleasant is my morning waking to the greeting of all these loved & loving faces.

I was very sorry that I did not see Mr. Garrison when he passed through Philadelphia. The day on which he called on my father, I spent at home, being sick. The warm weather, or unusual fatigue, occasionally exhausts & prostrates me. For the last few days, I have been quite good-for-nothing. I was very glad to learn, from those who did see Mr. Garrison, that he is looking very well, & I trust that his looks are an indication of his condition. I am glad that he looks so hopefully on the slave's future. I do not be-

lieve that the work of the abolitionists is done, but I believe that its consummation is not far off. My trust is not in Lincoln, but in the people, who I think, have, at last, been taught by severe discipline, that the safety of the republic requires the curbing of the slave power. If they have not already learned, they will soon learn, that to curb it, they must destroy it. I give Lincoln all due praise for every anti-slavery word or deed of his; but I believe that each is the result of the pressure of the people upon him. Certainly, he has done better than he promised; for he never made any anti-slavery professions, before his election, that I know of, nor any public ones, since. Just now, I am rather indignant at him for his conduct relative to the action of Gov. Stanley, & the execution of the Fugitive Slave Law in the District of Columbia. But, on the other hand, how much there is to re-

joice over! The abolition of slavery in the District, its prohibition in the Territories, the recognition of Hayti & Liberia, the order against the rendition of slaves by army or navy officers; & last, the confiscation bill, passed a day or two since. And all this is the reaping from our many years sowing. Verily, we have reason to thank God and take courage. Yet, as I said, I do not believe that our work as abolitionists, is quite done, and how much more remains for us to do, time only can reveal. I wish that Miller Mc Kim had been satisfied to wait for that revelation, before resigning his office in our society. I thought it a mistake, at the time, and tried to convince him of it. We published the correspondence, because he wished his position to be understood, but the correspondence, and the whole affair has been so misunderstood, that the publication has done more harm than good. Miller still performs the duties of the office which he has resigned, but, next October, the Penn.a Soc.y must elect a Corres-

pending Sec. as usual, and I hope he may consent to be re-elected. And, if he does, I suppose still harder things will be said about his resignation, than have been already said. He acted according to his best judgment, and I don't know that his judgment has changed, since. None of our Committee agreed with him. He has not yet returned from Port Royal. He writes to me that he never knew what slavery was, until he went there.

Mr. & Mrs. & Miss Sewall have been here, on a visit, and I have very much enjoyed the little I saw of them. I also met Miss Northey, William's friend, and found her a very pleasant person. I was delighted to learn from her, that William has a new & good situation in Dorchester. She told me, also, what I had heard before, of the other change in his plans & prospects. It seemed sad, at first, but I trust that it will prove

to be for the best.

Please tell Wendell that I received his letter, and have intended to answer it, & I still hope to do so. Poor Phebe was too unwell to go about much, while she was here. She has gone to Jersey City now, to visit her uncle, & I have not heard from her since she left. Her health seemed to improve while she was here.

We are looking towards the Alleghany Mountains, for a summer retreat. Thus far, the weather has been delightfully cool, & if it would remain so, we should be glad to stay at home. But this is neither to be expected or desired.

When we are established anywhere, I hope to write to you again. My sister is here, & expects to go with me into the country. My father is so very feeble, that we doubt whether he will be able to go to New England, this summer, though his physician says he must not stay in the city.

Margaret sends love to you all. You know how glad I am to hear from you, at any time; and as I have no hope of seeing you this summer, I trust you will write to me frequently. With much love to Mr. Garrison and all the children

I am, yrs. most heartily, Mary Grew.